

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The amendments to Claim 1 are supported by Claim 1 as originally filed. This amendment eliminates oligomer component B. Other amendments to the original claims are supported by the claims themselves. New Claims 22 and 23 are supported by original Claim 5. New Claims 24-26 are supported by specification page 14, lines 14-17. No new matter has been entered.

By the above amendment the present claims have been directed to an electrolyte composition comprising a polymer component (A) which, itself, is one or both of (co)polymer A-1 and A-2. In addition, electrolyte component C is present. Oligomer component (B) has been cancelled, and thus the claim does not read on a composition comprising only component B and C.

The two anticipation rejections over Ventura and Yoshida are traversed. These references relate to *plasticizers*, not (co)polymers.

Ventura describes his liquid electrolyte plasticizers most broadly at column 4, line 16 of the reference, where *l* describes the number of repeat units in the formula. As pointed out at column 4, line 52 of Ventura, *l* can be up to 10. Such plasticizers are not polymers or copolymers, even when all the variables in the formula are maximized. This is evident from, e.g., Table 1 at columns 9 and 10 of Ventura, which describe the low molecular weight plasticizers that make up the basis of the disclosure. As is well known in the art, plasticizers are quite different from polymers and copolymers, and are typically added to the latter to change the physical and mechanical characteristics of (co)polymers. See, e.g., column 4, lines 6-11 of Ventura. This reference neither discloses nor suggests the presently claimed electrolyte composition.

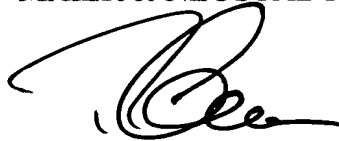
Yoshida similarly describes plasticizers, not polymers or copolymers. Perhaps the broadest definition of the reference plasticizers appears at column 2, line 45 of the reference

where the letter p indicates the number of repeat units. As noted at column 2, lines 57-58, p can be up to 10. Again, these materials are not polymers or copolymers but are, instead, low molecular weight plasticizers. See for example the listing of particular species at columns 6 and 7 of Yoshida.

Accordingly, and because neither reference applied against the claims disclose or suggest the claimed electrolyte composition comprising polymer component A and electrolyte component C, Applicants submit that the outstanding rejections should be withdrawn and this case passed to Issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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